

Presiding: David Goulding, Vice Chairperson

Members Present: William Boyd, Kathy Ahlmark, Doug Bristol, Yuping Chen, Gordon Flake, Jeannie Foushee, David Goulding, Michael Humble, Ginny Ivanoff (OEEO, non-voting), Bill Quattlebaum, Bill Steinmetz, Farida Sharief.

Members Absent: Janice Allen, Alyce Bradbury, Celeste Edwards, Kelly Godfrey, Marcus Harris, Pat King-Herbert, Bill Jirles, Boris Risek, Molly Vallant, Ronald Herbert, Veronica Godfrey.

Old Business

1. Minutes

The 8-Feb-2006 minutes were reviewed and approved unanimously.

2. Subcommittee Reports

Black History Month (February)

a. **Obesity Panel:** Approximately 45 people were in attendance and it was felt there was a nice balance between the speakers and their backgrounds.

b. **Dr. Cecil Pickett's presentation:** A preliminary meeting with a "full house" was held in the Executive Conference Room with Dr. Pickett and the Trainees. Dr. Pickett's presentation was attended by approximately 150 people.

c. **General summary:** Gordon gave the council a short preview of a DVD (prepared by Arts and Graphics) of Dr. Pickett's presentation. The hope is to share this with local schools to show and encourage others to follow scientific career paths.

Ginny pointed out that The Factor did not have much pre-event coverage but this was due to the illness of the reporter who would have provided the coverage. She hopes the follow up with more information in the next available Factor.

The Committee wanted healthy food for the event (cheese, fruit, etc.) however it could not be funded internally as it was not deemed "Ethnic Food." Perhaps we should choose a local restaurant for next year. "What is Ethnic Food" may be documented somewhere.

The Dance Floor can be arranged in two sizes: 16 x 12 ft –or- 24 x 16 ft. The pieces are kept by Sara O'Donald. Please remember that if the larger layout is requested then some tables must be REMOVED from the cafeteria leading to much more work. Please use the smaller layout as much as possible.

New Business

1. Women's Spirit Lecture: March 20, 2006 at 3pm.

Posters will be ready by the end of the week. Ginny will send out the broadcast email and contact the Grapevine about coverage.

2. CAST Celebration: March 30, 2006.

Plans include a Women's Health Fair from 10am-3pm on the 30th. Screenings (blood pressure, etc) and information tables (heart disease, breast cancer, police safety for women) will be available. This will take place in 101A/B/C Conference Rooms. In April additional topics are being considered: Etiquette (perhaps tips sent via email) and Training on Public Speaking (perhaps in coordination with Toastmasters.)

3. Asian Pacific Islander: May 2006

The members had a 3pm meeting schedule following the DC meeting. No speaker has yet been chosen however there is plenty of time.

New Events / Ideas

1. Fund Raisers / Petty Cash Fund

Officially there is no way we can have a petty cash fund.

2. Committee for the Arts

Bill Q. has contacted 6 local "Art Councils" and several have responded with interest. Questions about insurance and on-site sales were asked and Bill is to follow up with emails to Donna McNeil seeking advice on these and on areas on each campus art can be displayed. He will also email the council members looking for additional CftA volunteers.

3. Summer Fair

The idea is to have the council interact with the summer students. David will email Charlie League.

4. Men's Spirit Lecture

Could be held in June to coordinate with Father's Day (and June currently does not have a scheduled event). Could include health screenings. David will email the DC members to see if the idea is worth pursuing.

5. Getting to know a country

David says this could be a monthly topic with displays around NIEHS (display cases or the rolling poster boards.) Each month a country would be chosen (perhaps lead by an NIEHS member from the chosen country), information gathered and presented for a few weeks during the month.

6. Disability Advocacy Committee

The DAC met with Dr. Schwartz and were requested to work on a top-5 items list that includes accessibility to the Cafeteria, Bathrooms, Library, Health Unit (to be remodeled or relocated), 101 Conference Room stages, E-Module, etc. Obviously the list needs to be finalized. The Library has a new accessible computer table.

7. Diversity Council WWW Site

Doug pointed out that the DC www site has no links to similar external sites (other DC like organizations) at universities or other government sites. He had a 5-page printout from a simple recursive Google search. We could also include the DC www page in each email we send out to All_NIEHS and use our www pages to promote upcoming events more. Our home page is:
<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/divcounc/home.htm>